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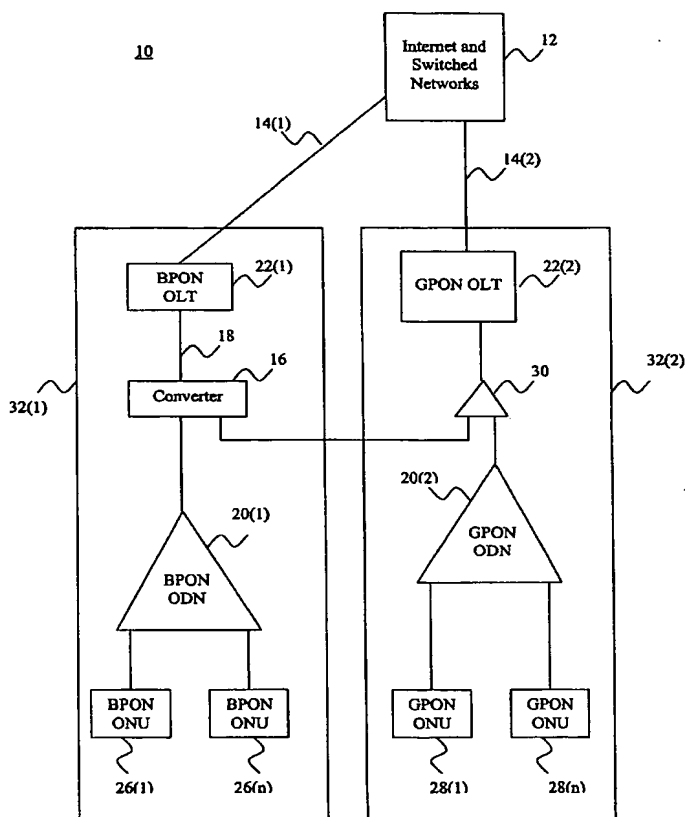
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR COMMUNICATING BETWEEN A LEGACY PON NETWORK AND AN UP-  
GRADED PON NETWORK



(57) Abstract: Methods and apparatuses consistent  
with the present invention facilitate the transition  
from a legacy network [32(1)] to an upgraded network  
[32(2)] by providing a converter [16] that communicates  
between the legacy network and the upgraded network.  
The converter [16] is provisioned such that legacy  
devices, such as Optical Network Units (ONUs) [26],  
appear as upgraded devices to the upgraded network  
[32(2)], while the upgraded network [32(2)] looks like  
a legacy network to the legacy devices.



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